

DEMOCRATIC GERMAN REPORT

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West German Children — *Free Holiday Offer*

West German children can have free summer holidays in the children's holiday camps of the German Democratic Republic this year, just like East German children.

This was announced on May 7th by the East German Government. The announcement, which was addressed to parents, teachers and children in West Germany stated in part:

"All the children in the German Democratic Republic are able to enjoy happy holidays, thanks to the help given by all working people, the Government, the trade unions and the youth organisations.

"The children in West Germany too want to have happy holidays, but the budget in West Germany is so loaded with the cost of re-militarisation and occupation, that no money is available for holidays for the children of workers and farmers.

"Now the Government of the German Democratic Republic invites West German children to enjoy a free holiday in our holiday camps. Here you will be able to spend your holidays together with East German children, before you go back to school sun-browned and healthy."

...AND THIS IS 1954



"Heil Hitler Renovator of Germany" states the text on the front of this Hitler token which is being sold to fervent nazis supporters in many parts of West Germany this year.

The back of the coin, liberally spattered with swastikas, has the text "I too have made my contribution - 50 sacrificial pfennigs".

The West German police have so far made no effort to locate or prosecute the makers and distributors of this token; but hundreds of men and women who printed or distributed peace propaganda are imprisoned.

Gauleiter in West German Parliament

One of the members of the West German Parliament was formerly a nazi gauleiter (province leader). He is Paul Sornik, 54-year-old deputy of the Refugee Party.

Herr Sornik was a member of the fascist Free Corps which fought against Poland after the First World War, and then became an active member of the "Young German Party", the camouflaged nazi party in Polish Upper Silesia. During the nazi period he was very active in the educational service, and from 1944 until the end of the war in May 1945 he acted as Gauleiter of Upper Silesia.

ANTI-FASCIST DOCTOR SEIZED IN WEST BERLIN

West Berlin police have seized a leading East Berlin pathologist who had gone to Moabit Hospital, in the British Sector of the city, to deliver a lecture on cancer fighting.

The doctor, Carl Coutelle, was first menaced by a gang of rowdies who invaded the doctors' meeting, and then arrested by the West Berlin police on vague charges of "kidnapping". In previous cases of this nature, the victim has been held for months or years in West Berlin prisons, and then discharged.

Dr. Coutelle works in the Pathological Institute of the Humboldt University in East Berlin. He served as a doctor with the anti-fascist forces in Spain and China before and during World War Two.

Workers Stop Fascist Meeting

West Berlin workers stopped a meeting of the neo-fascist "German Party" in the West Berlin district of Tegel on April 27th by occupying the meeting hall and platform half an hour before the meeting was due to begin.

"There is Another Germany — There is Another America"

By Albert Maltz

Editor

Taegliche Rundschau
Berlin

Dear Colleague:

By means of this letter I would like to express my very deep appreciation of the honour paid to me by your newspaper and others, and by various individuals, on the occasion of my 45th birthday. Yet, beyond personal sentiment, (however keen), there is an additional reason that prompts me to write to you. It is the appreciation that I, and thousands of progressive Americans, feel for the people, the cultural leaders, the political leaders, of the German Democratic Republic. Let me explain.

In the German tragedy that began in the Reichstag fire in 1933, there was a cultural aspect that many Americans, (and many in all countries), found bitterly disheartening. This was the demonstration that under given historical conditions even the most advanced culture could turn upon itself with narrow, frenzied chauvinism, cast out with venom some of its best thinkers, artists, teachers, scientists, pervert its humanistic tradition, reduce its fertile minds to silent conformity.

There were some Americans who said of this: "There you are — that's the way the Germans are." But there were others of us who said: "No! This is what can happen in any land when a people are betrayed by their woes and by false leaders. There is another Germany," we said, "there will be another Germany." And we retained in our hearts and minds the Germany of Beethoven and Goethe, of Kepler and Ehrlich, of Kant and Hegel, of Marx and Engels, of Mann and Seghers, of Thaelmann.

How goes it now? The world scene has altered a bit. Now thieving, demagogic politicians like the intellectual cretin, Senator McCarthy, are deciding more and more what books Americans may read, what films they may see, what radio and television programs may entertain (ie. corrupt) their leisure hours. Chauvinism and conformity pervade our universities, scientists are harnessed to the military, economic persecution and imprisonment are visited upon those who refuse to dance to the beat of drums.

Several months ago a list was universally published in the American press naming those writers whose

Albert Maltz, eminent American novelist and film writer, is well known in the German Democratic Republic, for his books such as "Underground Stream" and "The Cross and the Arrow" have appeared here in large editions.

books were being removed from all U. S. foreign libraries. Mine was among them. This, it happens, is the only kind of official attention now being paid in the U. S. to the work of Howard Fast and others who are published and honoured in your country.

Is there any wonder then that I, and so many other Americans, look to the German Democratic Republic with appreciation and indebtedness?

Your people, your bitter history, can teach us not to despair over our people or our present trials. We see in Adenauer Germany a revival of all that darkened Germany's past, brought its people to slaughter, its cities to devastation. We see in the German Democratic Republic a people moving into the sunlight of fraternalism, of peaceful, constructive labour, of independence from imperialism, of a culture in which Goethe, Beethoven and Kepler would have felt at home, knowing that here Man is valued above Profit.

Now it is your turn to comfort us, to say "There is another America". Now we must draw strength from you. Now, when I find my work honoured in your country, but dishonoured by the fascists of America, I can know that I am fit company for decent men.

"GERMANS MUST DECIDE" — Soviet Note

The Germans themselves must take decisions upon the question of relations between East and West Germany, and upon specific questions such as passenger and goods traffic between the two halves of the country, Soviet High Commissioner V. S. Semyonov stated in letters addressed to the western High Commissioners on April 17th.

In his letter High Commissioner Semyonov repeated the suggestion which he had made previously that the German administrations in East and West should establish two all-German committees, one to deal with economic and administrative problems, and the other to deal with cultural problems.

The western high commissioners replied by stating that until German unity was restored such questions must in the main be solved by the occupation powers.

In his latest letter High Commissioner Semyonov pointed out that it was impossible to ignore the fact that today two governments actually exist on German territory, the Government of the German Democratic Republic and the West German Government. "The fact that at the moment there is no agreement be-

tween the four powers on the reunification of Germany and a peace treaty does not mean that the occupation powers have the right to ignore the right of the German people to decide on their internal affairs without foreign interference" High Commissioner Semyonov stated.

"The Soviet authorities therefore hold it to be necessary to take steps in the near future which would lead to the establishment of the proposed committees by agreement between the authorities of East and West Germany".

In his letter High Commissioner Semyonov drew the attention of the western High Commissioners to the fact that on March 26th this year the German Democratic Republic had been granted sovereignty, and that therefore the German Democratic Republic itself had to make its own decisions on relations with West Germany.

On April 15th High Commissioner Semyonov wrote to the chiefs of the military missions of various powers stationed in West Berlin, pointing out that the authorities of the German Democratic Republic must in future be approached in all questions affecting East Germany.

FOREIGN LEGION PRESS-GANGS OUT

West German Jobless Sought for New Dien Bien Phu's

Recruiting agents seeking young men for the French Foreign Legion have greatly increased their efforts in West Germany in the past few weeks, the West German newspaper "Frankfurter Abendpost" reported on May 11th. The West German authorities have taken no steps to prevent this trade in human flesh, which has been speeded up to make good French losses in Indo-China.

A home run by "Evangelical Aid" at Landau, in West Germany, is at present caring for more than 200 young West Germans who had been recruited for the Foreign Legion but changed their minds at the last moment, and managed to get away from the recruiters, who sometimes use press-gang methods, before they were taken over the frontier into France.

A journalist from the West German news agency DMITAG, who interviewed 199 of these young men, found that the largest portion had agreed to join the Foreign Legion because of long-term unemployment. Broken families also played a significant part. Only a very small portion had agreed to join the Legion from a spirit of adventure.

In the years immediately following World War Two, the majority of the German recruits to the

French Foreign Legion were former members of the Wehrmacht, and included a high proportion of SS men. About three-quarters of the present recruits are inexperienced young men under 21 years of age.

According to estimates published by the "Evangelical Aid" in West Germany, about 25,000 Germans have been killed fighting in the

ranks of the French Foreign Legion in Indo-China. Many hundreds have saved their lives by taking advantage of the free pardon offered to German legionaries by the Government of the German Democratic Republic. They have gone over to the Vietnam patriot forces, and have been able to return to the German Democratic Republic, where they are now working in factories and on farms.

WEHRMACHT SHADOW AT GENEVA CONFERENCE

The shadow of the West German Wehrmacht was over the Geneva Conference on Asia, which opened on April 26th. Chinese Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Chou En Lai, addressing the conference on April 28th stated:

"The people of China, as all the peoples of Asia, are concerned not only about peace in Asia but also about peace in Europe and other parts of the world. The policy of reviving German militarism and splitting Europe into mutually hostile military blocs now menaces peace and security in Europe and at the same time affects the situation outside Europe, aggravating

tension and uneasiness in Asia.

"That is why we consider that in order to safeguard world peace it is necessary, through negotiation, first and foremost between the great powers, to put an end to the rearmament of West Germany, and to ensure security in Europe on the basis of joint efforts of all European states, as proposed by the Soviet Union.

"We also consider that the interests of peace demand the termination of the armaments race, the reduction of armaments and armed forces, the prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction."

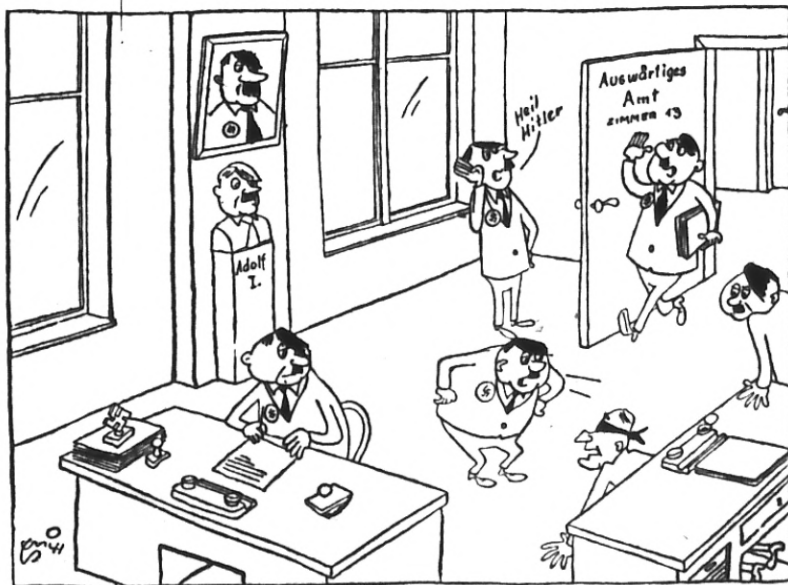
SS OFFICER'S "SELF DEFENCE"

On July 1st 1945, seven weeks after the end of the war, Frau Erika Muehlbauer threatened Erich Schatz that she would tell the British military authorities that he had been an SS officer. SS-man Schatz thereupon murdered Frau Muehlbauer.

On April 9th 1954 Schatz was brought before the District Court of Lüneberg, British Zone, and charged with the murder. The court decided SS-man Schatz had acted in self-defence, and freed him.

**16 Months
• for Opposing Wehrmacht**

A West German court has sent Guenter Wuttke, 22-year-old member of the Free German Youth, to prison for sixteen months for distributing pamphlets protesting against the formation of a new West German Wehrmacht. The sentence was passed by the district court of Flensburg, British Zone.



IN WEST GERMANY'S FOREIGN MINISTRY

"Looking for neo-nazis? But my dear Sir, we are all defenders of the free western world here."
(From "Berliner Zeitung" Berlin)

(From "Berliner Zeitung" Berlin)

You Ask - We Answer:

YOUTH, OVERTIME & WORKING WOMEN

"What openings are there for young people in government service in East Germany?"

J. M., Liverpool, England

All positions are open to capable young people in government service in East Germany. For example, 8,000 members of the local government bodies and about 35% of all government workers are under 25, 861 of whom are in responsible posts. Rudi Wiesner was appointed State Secretary for Technical Education when he was only twenty-four years old.

Young people over 21 are eligible for election to all representative bodies and all young men and women of 18 have the vote.

"What are the regulations in East Germany about working hours and overtime?"

H. B. Montreal, Canada

The maximum legal working day for adults in East Germany is 8 hours and the working week 48 hours; for young people between 16 and 18 it is 7½ hours a day and 45 hours a week; and for 14 to 16-year-olds, 7 hours a day and 42 hours a week. It is forbidden to employ children who are still attending primary school, even if they are already over 14.

In principle, overtime can only be worked in cases of emergency and

must be paid at the rate of 25% over the basic wage. Time and a half must be paid for Sunday work and double pay for legal holidays (Easter, Whitsun, Christmas, May Day, etc.). 10% over the basic wage must be paid for all night work.

Overtime can only be worked with the express consent of the relevant district trade union committee, and in any case, overtime hours must not exceed 120 hours per person in the year and must never exceed four hours on two successive days.

"How about women's work in East Germany?"

P. K. Chicago, USA

All jobs are open to women in East Germany and they are legally assured of equal pay for equal work. There is a woman cabinet minister (Hilde Benjamin, Minister of Justice), and women in responsible positions in all branches of the administration.

In all branches of industry women are given every possible help and encouragement to learn the trade and take skilled jobs, instead of staying on relatively unskilled work. Trade unions are active in opposing male opposition, which still exists to some extent.

But there are of course legal restrictions against employing women in certain branches involving heavy manual or unhealthy work. It

is forbidden, for example, to employ women on jobs involving continuous lifting of loads of more than 33 pounds or separate loads of more than 66 pounds. Expectant or nursing mothers are not allowed to do load-lifting jobs of any kind.

It is absolutely forbidden to employ women in heavy underground mining work, or at high temperatures, at or near furnaces in coal or coke processing works; at or near furnaces or in the smithy of any metal works; at any kind of heavy wood-cutting or wood-sawing machinery; or in any unhealthy chemical processes. Women are also forbidden to do dangerous work on the railways, such as coupling. These restrictions, laid down by the Labour Law, are very strictly enforced.

Special efforts are made to insure that women with children can really work on an equal footing with other workers. All married women with children get one free day with pay per month to attend to urgent household jobs. Expectant mothers get six weeks' leave with pay before delivery and five weeks' leave with pay after the birth of the baby, and in order to prevent employers from wriggling out of their obligations, mothers cannot be given notice during the time from the third month of pregnancy until six weeks after the birth of the baby.

All bigger factories have their own kindergartens for the children of women workers, and government kindergartens and school horts (day nurseries for school age children) must give first preference to children of working mothers.

Warning: Forgeries

The East German Ministry for Foreign Trade has issued a warning to firms all over the world which are trading with East Germany that forged letters are being sent out by West German sabotage centres in an effort to interfere with their business.

The latest forgeries to be identified told foreign import firms that orders they had given would have to be postponed to the end of the year, and that further orders could not be accepted. The statements made in these letters were completely untrue.



"People exaggerate a lot with their talk about the danger of a new Wehrmacht"
("Neues Deutschland", Berlin)

POOR LITTLE SPY

A True Story from West Berlin

A few weeks ago a pretty dark haired girl of seventeen was delivered of a healthy baby in a hospital in the German Democratic Republic near Berlin.

There was nothing unusual about that; what was unusual was that this girl was a spy. She was not the romantic Mata Hari of the films and serial stories, but one of the tragic figures caught up in the corruption and intrigue of West Berlin, which is so often represented to the western world as a "bastion of western democracy and freedom."

Here is the story of this young girl, whose name is Edelgard Schulze. She lives with her mother, and her fourteen-year-old brother Wolfgang at 53 Heide Strasse, West Berlin.

Like so many tens of thousands of young West Berliners, Edelgard could not find a job when she left school at the age of fourteen. With one third of the entire working population unemployed, she saw no prospect of ever getting work; she simply drew her relief money every week and helped her mother with the housework. Whenever she could save a few pfennigs she went in the evening to a nearby dance-hall called "Felsen Keller", and would sit there nursing a glass of lemonade for hours hoping that one day a knight in shining armour would miraculously appear and save her from her hopelessly drab life.

And one day, wonder of wonders, the knight did appear. He was a little older than she had imagined him, and his hair was going grey at the temples, but he was smartly dressed, he kissed her hand when she had danced with him, he had lots of money, and outside at the curb he had a flashy car parked.

Edelgard met him often, and soon her new friend asked her to come with him to West Germany on a business trip. "When we come back we can arrange about getting married" he told her. Edelgard did not know that her cavalier, whose name was Walter Breitel, already had a wife and several children in his home at 68 Tempelhofer Damm, West Berlin.

She went with him to West Germany, where they spent some weeks together. When they came back to



West Berlin, Edelgard discovered that she was pregnant, and began pressing her friend to marry her.

Herr Breitel still concealed the fact that he was already married, but he now revealed to Edelgard that he was not a commercial traveller, as he had claimed, but that he was a full-time agent of the West German Military Espionage Organization.

"I cannot marry you until you have proved that you too can work for us" he told the girl. She was ready to do anything to make him happy, and without considering the consequences she agreed to help. To make it easier for her to travel in the German Democratic Republic she stole the identity card of a girl friend who lives in East Berlin.

Then she travelled to various parts of East Germany, bringing instructions to espionage agents, collecting their reports, and doing other little jobs which were particularly easy for her, since nobody suspected this girl, almost a schoolgirl still, of any illegal activity.

Herr Breitel then suggested to her that things would look even more innocent if she took her 14-year-old brother Wolfgang along with her. Wolfgang liked "playing gangster", as he had seen it done in so many American films, and Herr Breitel gave him money to go to the cinema every time he and his sister came back from "doing a job".

But the time for Edeltraud to have her baby was coming near, and she was becoming embarrassing to Herr Breitel with her demands that he should marry her. Herr Breitel had got tired of her, and besides he was afraid that the story would come out, and he would have trouble with his wife.

For all this there was a simple solution. He gave Edelgard "just one more little job, my dear". And he took care that it was such an obvious piece of espionage that even a blind man could not help noticing it.

The People's Police of the German Democratic Republic are anything but blind, and Edelgard and her brother Wolfgang were soon where Herr Breitel wanted them — in the custody of the East German authorities.

Edelgard was rushed away to hospital, where she had her baby, and where she got all the benefits of the excellent East German social services; when she was up and about again, social workers spent a lot of time and trouble explaining to the poor muddled little girl, and to her bewildered brother, that in real life things did not happen like they do in Hollywood films.

And then, one day at the end of March, a car from East Berlin drove across the sector boundary to 53 Heide Straße, and brought Edelgard and her baby, together with Wolfgang, back home again.

PARENTS & TEACHERS GET TOGETHER

Committees Help East German Schools

By Joan Becker

My two children attend the 12th Primary School in the working class district of Prenzlauer Berg in East Berlin, where about 75 % of the population are workers.

Prenzlauer Berg was one of the most heavily bombed districts in Berlin during the war and many children lost one or both parents in the fighting or through bombing; others have themselves had terrible war-time experiences. The schooling of many of the elder children was unavoidably neglected during 1944 and 1945, and they are therefore one or even two years behind.

In these circumstances cooperation between parents and teachers is very important and our Parents' Committees can do a great deal to help.

I was elected as representative of my little daughter's class at the annual school meeting last November, together with other class representatives, a member of the Women's Democratic Federation and of the local factory which has "adopted" the school.

Each year two or three outstanding problems get special attention; for example, in 1953 the special emphasis was on welding into a collective group the seven hundred children, who had previously attended seven different schools in the neighbourhood before coming last Easter to the brand-new 12th School.

Another task was the organisation of the summer holiday campaign, during which more than half the children got out of the city to summer day camps on the lakes, run by voluntary helpers from the parents' committee, Women's Democratic Federation, school staff and Free German Youth movement.

The main problems for 1954 are the extension of afterschool activities; extra coaching for backward children; apprenticing of children leaving school this summer; and an even better organisation of the summer holiday campaign, for which considerably larger sums and many more camping sites are available this year.

Last month we had a combined Staff and Parents' meeting at which the teachers' plan of action for the rest of the school year was under discussion. Each of the twenty-one teachers had volunteered to give up

one free afternoon in the month to help backward children to get through the end-of-term examinations in June.

It is perhaps worth stressing that the main emphasis is placed on good average class results. No teacher gets credit for producing a couple of brilliant scholars unless the general standard is good. Parents especially appreciate this extra help from young teachers who are themselves continuing their studies at home; five of our young teachers are taking their final examinations this summer.

Various openings for apprentices in Berlin factories were discussed. The teacher of a special class of fifteen-year-olds who for reasons already mentioned, are above the average school-leaving age, told amidst general laughter about his efforts to get his class interested in apprenticeships in fine mechanics and optics and electrical equipment. Fourteen of his seventeen girl pupils dreamed of becoming hairdressers, but they changed their minds when he pictured the long hours and their dependence on "the whims of capricious women customers" and contrasted this with the advantages of learning a skilled trade.

But here another difficulty came up; some parents did not take to the idea of their girls going into men's trades and he had to work hard to persuade them that there are nowadays no exclusively men's trades and that jobs in fine mechanics, for instance, are done even better by girls.

Various members of the Parents' Committee brought up special class problems and decisions were reached, for instance, as to what to do about some children who attend irregularly and whose parents seem to take no interest in the school. In such cases it is necessary to pay frequent visits to these parents, to persuade them of the importance of their children's education.

One mother undertook to have four children from crowded homes do their homework under her supervision and another to help three smaller children to catch up on their reading.

Difficulties of the kind mentioned occur most often in families where one or both parents are missing, where the mother is out all day, or where grandparents are not dealing with the children properly. But all workers' children get special attention, especially when both parents go out to work.

We have also opened a small parents' fund, with contributions from 10 pfennigs, to buy new books for the library, equipment for after-school groups, class-room decorations and so on.

Our patron factory is a branch of the nationally owned "Fortschritt" (Progress) tailoring factory, where a big percentage of the workers are women whose children attend our school. Their representative has helped us in many ways; providing equipment for the school Hort (after-school centre for children of working mothers), Christmas presents for smaller children and gifts of books for pupils who pass their school-leaving examination with distinction. In return, groups of our children give singing and folk-dancing performances at factory meetings. They performed on March 8th, International Women's Day and May Day.

But parents who work in other factories help too. There is a baker on our Parents' Committee who always gets the cakes and biscuits baked for school parties in the big bakery where he works, and a carpenter who brings wood scraps for the carpentry group and instructs the group two afternoons a week.

A very important means of increasing the interest of parents is the parents' monthly discussion group, organised by the Women's Democratic Federation and presided over by one of the teachers. A short talk on some special problem of discipline, hygiene, homework, importance of parents setting a good example, and so on, is given by the teacher and general discussion follows.

These discussions are increasingly well attended in our school, especially by younger parents who are really eager to bring up their children in good democratic traditions. We still sometimes hear the old argument about the value of a "good, sound whipping" from some older parents,

but these are firmly and repeatedly reminded that no corporal punishment is allowed in East German schools and that children who get smacked at home are the most difficult to help in school.

The discussions serve another good purpose. Parents who have themselves not had a good education have their attention drawn to their children's books and can often learn from them. Points which parents were not able to explain to their children are often gone over in the discussion groups, and one hears again and again appreciation of the beautiful school books which are the personal property of the children and do not have to be handed back at the end of the year.

A great deal of work goes into promoting cooperation between parents and teachers, and this is largely in the hands of our Women's Democratic Federation representatives; in our school she herself represents one class, organises the parents' discussion groups, attends meetings of the Parents' Committee and is present at all school staff meetings, so that she knows all about what goes on in the school. But her work does not end here; she reports regularly to the education committee of the Women's Democratic Federation, which is in constant contact with government education authorities.

In this way parents and teachers all over the country can really work together to make our schools better and to bring up our children in the spirit of true democracy.

Raisins from Turkey

The German Democratic Republic will import goods from Turkey to the value of over 50 million dollars under the terms of a trade agreement signed in Ankara on April 22nd. Turkey will provide tobacco, wool, leather, raisins and many other sub-tropical foods, and East Germany will supply machines, tools and tyres.

Students from ten countries study in East German universities

Students from Korea, China, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Spain, Greece, Iran, Nigeria and Vietnam are studying in the special department for foreign students in the Workers' and Peasants' Faculty of the Karl Marx University in Leipzig. Here they take intensive courses in German before starting regular university studies.

RETRACTION PLEASE!

(Installment Three)

By the Editor

Synopsis: On January 7th the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Board of Deputies of British Jews approved a report deprecating the growth of neo-fascism in West Germany. The report also stated: "In East Germany a similar position obtains, in that several well-known Nazis are Ministers in the East German Government."

On February 15th I wrote to the Foreign Affairs Committee calling for a withdrawal of the statement, since not a single East German Minister had been a Nazi.

On February 23rd, A. G. Brotman, Secretary of the Board of Deputies replied: "Our information was given on the basis of information from sources which we know to be reliable ... in the circumstances we feel it would be inadvisable to publish names and other details ..."

On March 13th I replied, pointing out that the reluctance to publish the names of the alleged "well-known Nazis" could only be regarded as an admission that the Board of Deputies could not uphold its allegation. Now read on:

From: John Peet, Editor, Democratic German Report, Berlin

To: A. G. Brotman, Secretary, The Board of Deputies of British Jews, London

April 12th 1954

Dear Sir,

In your letters of February 23rd and March 24th, which were published in full in GERMAN REPORT Nos. 6 & 7, and your letter of April 7th, which I cannot print for reasons of space, you raised several points about civil rights for ex-nazis and the theoretical possibility that all the ministers in a future Germany might be ex-nazis. These are undeniably points of public interest and concern; I shall be glad to give you space to set forth your reasoned views upon the subject. But first let us settle the matter under discussion: does the Board of Deputies stand by its statement that there are "well known Nazis in the East German Government"? If so, then please produce the so-called evidence. If not, then a public retraction is urgently needed.

Yours sincerely, John Peet

Three Years Jail for Handing Out Party Programme

A West German Communist has been sent to prison for three years for distributing copies of the legally published programme of his party.

The sentence was passed on May 6th on Horst Reichel by the West German Federal Court in Karlsruhe. Herbert Beyer was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for the same offence.

The only charge against the two men was that they had distributed copies of the "Programme for the National Re-unification of Germany" published by the Communist Party in 1952.

White Guard Surrenders

A leading member of the Russian emigrant organisation "NTS" has surrendered to the security authorities of the German Democratic Republic, the East German Ministry of the Interior announced on April 14th.

The Russian emigrant leader, Dr. A. R. Trushnovitch, handed over a number of documents dealing with the sabotage and espionage activities of the "NTS" in eastern Europe. Dr. Trushnovitch was chief of the West Berlin organisation of the NTS.

As is usual in such cases, the West Berlin authorities immediately claimed that Dr. Trushnovitch had been kidnapped.

WIN A NEW READER

Fill in the name and address of a friend, work-mate or acquaintance on the form below, and send it to

Democratic German Report

Friedrichstrasse 167/III

Berlin W 8, Germany

We shall be pleased to mail sample copies of the paper to him or her.

Name

Address

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

An apology is due to readers for the very delayed publication of this issue of GERMAN REPORT, but for the past two weeks I have been away from Berlin.

I have been in Geneva, reporting on the opening stages of the Asian conference there: some readers may have heard my commentaries on the conference broadcast by Warsaw Radio.

Reactions

It was interesting to observe the reaction of some of my colleagues from the big-business press of the west when they saw me on the "free soil" of Switzerland.

They knew that up until four years ago I had been chief correspondent of Reuters news agency in West Berlin, and that in 1950, sickened by the increasing element of war propaganda in "western" journalism, I had asked for and received the right to live, and work for peace, in East Germany.

Now in the cliché thinking and writing of many of my British and American colleagues, I had "disappeared behind the iron curtain", and in fact, in the past four years, various newspapers have reported from time to time that I have disappeared, been arrested, and even sent to a lunatic asylum.

And now here I was in Geneva, large as life, showing no signs of the horrible privations to which they rather hoped I had been exposed in the salt mines: or perhaps uranium mines are rather more up-to-date. I talked, lunched and dined with them quite freely (at least those of them who were not scared of being seen in my company), and they could see no traces of the "burly thugs with bulging armpits" who are supposed, in the modern mythology of the popular papers, to lurk behind every visitor from eastern Europe.

In fact I was a big disappointment to them all round.

New Generation

I recently saw an example of the new generation growing up in East Germany. It was at the great congress of the Socialist Unity Party, the party in which the Social Democrats and Communists of East Germany united in 1946 to make remilitarisation there impossible.

By John Peet

One of the events of the Congress was the visit paid by a delegation of Young Pioneers. The Pioneers, who are growing up in an atmosphere of peace, and with bright prospects for the future, came to greet the Party Congress with songs and with flowers.

Who Threatens Whom?

Baden-Baden, Germany, May 6 (Associated Press) — ... Altogether the Allies have at least 100 000 more troops in Western Germany than the Russians maintain in the Soviet Zone...

(New York Herald Tribune, Paris Edition, May 7th 1954)

One of the Pioneers, a cheerful twelve-year-old with curly dark brown hair, clambered up into the platform, and standing on a chair so that he could look over the top of the speakers desk, he spoke to the 4000 delegates. He had written his speech himself very carefully, but it was so exciting there on the platform, with the flood-lights shining and the cameras turning, that he forgot some of it. That only made his speech more spontaneous. Here are a few of the things he said:

"My father is a member of the party too. When he comes home in the evening he sits down and studies in big books. He does even more than we do at school. My father knows a lot already, but he is always

learning some more. We have two big book-cases full of books at home.

"We know we have a much better time nowadays than the children used to have. My mother told me that she used to get caned at school. That can't happen to us today, because the teachers are our friends and help us to learn as much as possible.

Stuffed Animals

"I come from Potsdam, and there we have a great big pioneer clubhouse, and we would like to invite all the children from West Germany, who do not have nice clubhouses there. At school we've got a school radio, which makes announcements over loudspeakers in all the class rooms, and there is music during the break. And we've got lots of things to help us learn, like stuffed animals, a snake in alcohol, and a heart made of wood.

And we know that when we leave school we can learn to be inventors or technicians or what we want, and my daddy won't have to pay any extra for that. When I leave school I am going to be a miner, or may be I shall be a motor mechanic.

"Our Pioneer Group help people in the school. If anyone in the class gets bad marks, then the others help him to catch up. I was very bad at arithmetic, but now I go every Thursday afternoon to the house of another Pioneer who is good at arithmetic, and he helps me to catch up, so I am getting good marks again now.

"But the main thing is that we are now learning the truth in our school. We do not learn to hate other nations but about the peace movement, and how we can help to make life better for everyone."

And I am glad to say that Dirk Simon, the cheerful brown-haired boy from Potsdam who wants to be a miner, is typical of the new generation of decent democratic Germans now growing up in the German Democratic Republic.

"What's German for 'Blitz' Bud?"

The special airforce dictionary issued for the use of pilots and navigators flying for the NATO forces in western Europe will in future be published in German too; it was announced at NATO headquarters on March 11th.

Democratic

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